THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) 8 pairs.

(b) and (e) One pair of trains (3/4 Cuttack-Bhubaneswar diesel push-pull) running over a short stretch of 28 Kms. has been withdrawn from 1.7.95 due to poor patronage. At present there is no proposal to restore the service.

Deaths in police custody and in Tihar Jail

2217. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number and details of cases of custodial deaths which took place in Delhi in police custody and in Tihar Jail during each of the last 3 years and so far in 1995;

(b) the number of cases in which (i) judicial enquiry and (ii) CBI enquiry were made and what are the details of each such enquiry;

(c) whether National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has considered any custodial death cases and made its recommendations to Government, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) what action Government have taken in respect of each case against officials/persons found responsible/guilty for custodial deaths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) According to Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi Police, the year-wise number of deaths in police custody and judicial custody reported in Delhi during the years 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995 (upto 15.8.95) are as under:—

Year	No. of deaths in custody	
	Police	Tihar Jail
1992	5	40
1993	4	36
1994	2	28
1995 (upto 15.8.95)	1	33

The details of these deaths may be seen at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 174, Annexure 55]

(b) Judicial enquiries and/or CBI investigations have been/are being conducted in the following cases:

(i) Vikal Kumar: Judicial enquiry is being conducted by Shri M.A. Khan, Addl. Sessions Judge, Patiala House Courts.

(ii) Madan Lal: As per orders of National Human Rights Commission, an investigation u/s 14 (a) of Protection of Human Rights Act was conducted by Shri R.C. Chopra, Addl. District & Sessions Judge, Tis Hazari. On his report, the investigation of the case has been entrusted to CBI.

(iii) Kuldeep Singh: On the direction of the Supreme Court, investigation of the case was transferred to CBI. CBI has submitted its report and has found that the police are not responsible for his death.

(iv) Shri Rajan Pillai: Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have constituted on 27.7.95 a one-member Commission headed by Justice Mrs. Leila Seth, former Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court to enquire into the circumstances leading to the death of Shri Rajan Pillai judicial custody.

(v) The case of Shri Jaswant Singh has also been transferred to CBI for investigation.

(c) Four instances of deaths in police custody in first six months of 1995 and

two cases of custodial deaths of 1994 came to the notice of National Human Rights Commission. In respect of all these cases the reports of Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have been received by the Comission. In respect of two cases of 1995 the Commission have directed that no further action be taken. The other two cases of 1995 are still under consideration of NHRC. Of the two cases of custodial deaths of 1994, one has resulted in very details recommendations, viz:

(i) that the investigation be handed over the an officer not below the rank of Additional Commissioner of Police belonging to an agency other than the local police;

(ii) that the investigation and consequential prosecution of persons involved should be expedited;

(iii) that the allegation of bribery be gone into and in case charge can be linked to the criminal action for torture leading to death, the same should be included;

(iv) departmental action be initiated against all police officers concerned; and

(v) that the next of kin of the deceased be compensated. In this compensation of Rs. 50,000/- should be provided within one month of the recommendation. This amount, though initially payable by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, should be recovered by way of reimbursement, from persons found guilty, through appropriate proceedings.

(d) Each case of custodial death, is scrutinized by Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi. The magisterial inquest report forms the substratum of this scrutiny. In respect of deaths in *judicial custody* of the magisterial inquest reports received so far, only in the case of Raj Kumar who died on 6.10.94, the magistrate has reported foul play. FIR against one Jail Warder Neel Bahadur and some prisoners has been lodged in the Police Station Hari Nagar. The matter is now pending in the court of law.

As regards deaths in police custody a detailed note on action taken against errant police officials is at Annexure. [*See* Appendix 174, Annexure 55]

Delay in Installation of Telephone Connections in Allahabad

2218. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending with the District Manager Telephones, Allahabad for installation of permanent telephone connections as on 31st July, 1995;

(b) by when all these telephone connections are likely to be installed; and

(c) the reasons for delay in installation of telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The total number of applications for new connections in Allahabad, pending as on 31.7.1995 is 4812.

(b) and (c) The existing exchange capacity has been fully utilised and hence those in the waiting list could not be provided with the connections. During 1995-96, about 11,000 lines of exchange capacity is likely to be added after which new connections will be provided. Also, as per National Telecom Policy, 1994, the telephones would be provided on demand by 1997 all over the country including Allahabad.